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OCTOBER 16 1979

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Secretary has asked me to respond to your letter of October 3, requesting a status report on the Guyanese inquiry into the assassination of Representative Leo Ryan.

The Department recently requested our Embassy in Georgetown to inquire about the present status of the Government of Guyana investigation into the tragic circumstances surrounding the death of Congressman Ryan. The Embassy replied that there has been no movement since the announcement of the appointment of a Justice of the Supreme Court to head the inquiry. The Embassy intends to make a representation to the Government of Guyana regarding the status of the Investigating Commission, and you will be informed of the Guyanese response.

Mr. Richard McCoy, officer in charge of Guyanese Affairs in the Department, will be in Guyana later this month and will discuss this subject with the appropriate Guyanese authorities. Mr. McCoy will also forward a report to you on the results of his discussions.

Sincerely,

/S/

J. Brian Atwood
Assistant Secretary
Congressional Relations

The Honorable
Clement J. Zablocki, Chairman,
Committee on Foreign Relations,
House of Representatives.

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